

FEBRUARY NEWS RELEASES

Cudahy DPW to Develop Emerald Ash Borer Strategic Plan

CUDAHY – (February 8, 2010) -- The City of Cudahy Department of Public Works (DPW) is taking a proactive approach when it comes to combating the invasive and devastating emerald ash borer. The DPW is developing a program of treatment, removal and replanting in case anything happens to the city's ash trees. About 15% of Cudahy's street trees are ash trees.

In January the DPW was awarded a \$15,000 matching grant to hire a consultant to prepare an Emerald Ash Borer Strategic Plan.

Mary Jo Lange, the City of Cudahy Director of Public Works, says the first step is taking an inventory of the location, size, age and health of Cudahy's current ash tree population. After that, a recommendation and cost analysis can be developed for the treatment, removal and/or replacement of the city's ash trees.

"This strategic plan will include an annual budget allowing for the treatment and replanting of Cudahy's ash trees, if it becomes necessary," Lange said. "We also will have the tools we need to make sound decisions about the treatment of each tree."

The DPW hopes to have the strategic plan completed by October of 2010. The plan and its recommendations will be available to residents and discussed at several public meetings.

The emerald ash borer is an invasive wood boring beetle from East Asia that feeds on the tissues under the bark of ash trees and kills them. It was accidentally imported to the United States within the wood of shipping crates from China. According to the U.S. Forest Service, the emerald ash borer is 100 percent fatal to ash trees of any size, age or health.

It was confirmed in the City of Franklin on August 27, 2009. So far it has **not** been detected in Cudahy.

###

Crime Plummets in Cudahy

The Cudahy Police Department released its annual uniform crime report Thursday for 2009. Chief Thomas D. Poellot reports that overall, reported crime is down 5.1% in the city as compared to 2008. Violent crime saw the biggest decrease of 21.4%.

Chief Poellot credits the reduction in crime to:

- Adding a patrol officer in 2008
- Increasing the detective bureau to fourth detectives
- Instituting a Crime Suppression Unit that specializes in gang and drug investigations
- Implementing Cudahy's first K9 Unit
- Reestablishing the School Resource Officer Program
- Creating the Prescription Medicine Collection Program that enables citizens to drop off unwanted medications for proper disposal
- Utilizing state and federal grants to improve technology and for enforcement initiatives in conjunction with Safe Streets, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area and heightened OWI enforcement

2009 Statistical Data

- 21.4% decrease in violent crime
- 5.1% decrease in overall crime
- 57 fewer victims of violent crime than in 2008
- 44 fewer assaults than in 2008
- 21 fewer robberies than in 2008
- 11 fewer burglaries than in 2008
- 4 fewer drug overdose deaths than 2008

"I attribute the decrease in criminal activity to the hard work and dedication of the men and women of the Cudahy Police Department and the continued support from Mayor Ryan McCue and all of the aldermen," Chief Thomas Poellot said.

"This proves that given the proper tools, the Cudahy Police Department can and did reduce crime in our community," Mayor Ryan McCue said. He added "We expect that this trend in decreased crime will continue in 2010".

The department looks to 2010 for further improvements and community outreach with increased training for the tactical unit, volunteer auxiliary officers to assist in basic patrol and an upcoming Citizen's Academy class.

###

Cudahy Health Department Passes Review by State Health Officials

MADISON — Dr. Seth Foldy, State Health Officer, today announced that the Cudahy Health Department has successfully passed the state's health department review. As a result, the Cudahy Health Department will maintain their Level III status.

"The hard-working staff of the Cudahy Health Department help make their community a healthier and safer place to live," said Foldy. "Their department has an actively engaged and supportive Board of Health, and does an excellent job of monitoring and assessing the needs of their community and working with partners to assure a healthy community."

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services is required to formally review the operations of all 92 Wisconsin local health departments at the county or municipality level at least every five years. The review establishes the health department as a level I, II or III agency. A level I agency meets the minimum requirements and a level III agency meets the maximum requirements established for a local health department.

The Cudahy Health Department provides services important to the community in areas such as:

- ☐ Communicable Disease Prevention and Control
 - ☐ Tobacco Prevention and Control
 - ☐ Access to Primary and Preventive Health Services
 - ☐ Health Promotion to Reduce Obesity and Improve Nutrition
-
- For information about the Cudahy Health Department, visit: <http://www.ci.cudahy.wi.us> or Carol Wantuch, Director/Health Officer 414-769-2239
 - For contact information for Wisconsin's local health departments, visit: <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/localhealth/>
 - For information about the state health plan, Healthiest Wisconsin 2010 or 2020, visit: <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/statehealthplan/index.htm>

###

BRADLEY CENTER TO HOST FIFTH ANNUAL BADGEBALL Cudahy Will Take on South Milwaukee on the Bucks Hardwood

Some of Cudahy's finest will trade their police uniforms for basketball uniforms next month in the fifth annual Badgeball game.

This year's match-up against the South Milwaukee P.D. will be played on the Bradley Center court. It's set for Sunday, March 14th after the Milwaukee Bucks take on the Indiana Pacers. The Bucks game tips off at noon. The Badgeball game is expected to begin around 3:30 p.m.

Cudahy residents are encouraged to come to the game and support their police department. Reduced-price tickets range from \$5 for upper level seats to \$40 for lower level seats. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn how to purchase tickets via e-mail, fax or regular mail. Please note: you must have a ticket to the Bucks game if you want to enter the Bradley Center for the Badgeball game.

###

4th of July Committee Makes an Early Call for Volunteers

Escape our frigid January temperatures for a moment by thinking about summer – specifically Independence Day.

Cudahy's 4th of July Committee is already hard at work planning activities for the City's annual celebration, and the committee is putting out a call now for volunteers.

There are many volunteer opportunities including organizing parade units and games, stage management and cleanup.

This year's parade will be held Sunday, July 4th starting at noon. The theme for the celebration is "Hometown Heroes."

If you are interested in being an Independence Day volunteer, please contact Rachel Mosey, City of Cudahy Marketing and Communications Coordinator, at moseyr@ci.cudahy.wi.us or 755-6919.